

Response

Claims 1-16 and 18-19 are pending in the application following entry of the preceding amendments. In the July Office Action, the Examiner indicated as allowable the subject matter of claim 17. Without conceding the propriety of any rejection of the Examiner, Applicants have amended the independent claims to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 17 and then cancelled claim 17 to avoid redundancy. Applicants additionally have revised dependent claim 4 to change "gas" to "fluid" merely for consistency with the independent claim. Applicants accordingly request that the pending claims be allowed and that a patent containing these claims issue in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

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